

FIG. 1

10     PROBE  
12     TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING SECTION  
17     B IMAGE CONSTRUCTING SECTION  
19     DOPPLER IMAGE CONSTRUCTING SECTION  
21     CFM CONSTRUCTING SECTION  
22     JUDGING SECTION  
23     SYNTHESIZING SECTION  
25     DISPLAY SECTION  
30     OPERATION CONSOLE  
26     CONTROL SECTION

FIG. 2

13     B IMAGE JUDGING UNIT  
14     DOPPLER SIGNAL JUDGING UNIT  
15     CFM JUDGING UNIT

FIG. 3

12     TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING SECTION  
17     B IMAGE CONSTRUCTING SECTION  
23     DATA EXTRACTING UNIT  
26     CONTROL SECTION  
32     IMAGE MEMORY  
33     VARIANCE JUDGING UNIT

FIG. 4

TIME

FIG. 5

BRIGHTNESS

VARIATION IN BRIGHTNESS

FRAME

FIG. 6

START

101 DETECT THAT PROBE IS LEFT IN THE AIR

YES

NO

102 SET FREEZE TIME (T1)

103 DISPLAY WARNING ON MONITOR

104 INPUT COMMAND FROM OPERATION CONSOLE

YES

YES

YES

INITIALIZE TIMER

105 HAS REMAINING TIME OF STANDBY TIME (T2) REACHED ZERO?

106 FREEZE PROCESSING

107 INPUT COMMAND FROM OPERATION CONSOLE

YES

NO

108     RELEASE FREEZE

FIG. 7(A)

ULTRASONIC WAVE DIAGNOSIS TIME (T1)

LEFT-IN-THE-AIR DETECTION (Ta)

STANDBY TIME (T2)

START OF FREEZE (Tb)

FREEZE CONTINUANCE TIME (T3)

RESTORATION PROCESSING (Tc)

ULTRASONIC WAVE DIAGNOSIS TIME (T4)

FIG. 7(B)

ULTRASONIC WAVE DIAGNOSIS TIME (T1)

LEFT-IN-THE-AIR DETECTION (Ta)

STANDBY TIME (T2)

SETTING CHANGE (Td)

SAVE TIME (U3)

RESTORATION PROCESSING (Tc)

ULTRASONIC WAVE DIAGNOSIS TIME (T4)

FIG. 8

12     TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING SECTION

19     DOPPLER IMAGE CONSTRUCTING SECTION

26     CONTROL SECTION

34-1   IMAGE MEMORY

35      VARIANCE JUDGING UNIT

FIG. 9

VARIANCE

THRESHOLD

FRAME

FIG. 10

12      TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING SECTION

21      CFM CONSTRUCTING SECTION

26      CONTROL SECTION

36      IMAGE MEMORY

37      VARIANCE JUDGING UNIT

FIG. 11

US SCREEN

FREEZE WILL BEGIN IN "X" SECONDS.

DISPLAY WARNING IN JAPANESE OR FOREIGN LANGUAGE. AUTOMATICALLY

REDUCE THE NUMERICAL VALUE OF "X".

FIG. 12

US SCREEN

IMAGE QUALITY WILL CHANGE IN "X" SECONDS.

CAUSE CHARACTERS TO BLINK, INCREASE SIZE, AND DISPLAY NEW SYMBOL

WHEN REMAINING TIME HAS BECOME SHORT.

ATTENTION

IMAGE QUALITY WILL CHANGE IN "X" SECONDS.

FIG. 13

12 TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING SECTION  
26 CONTROL SECTION  
72 IMAGE MEMORY  
74 COMPARISON REFERENCE DATA MEMORY  
76 JUDGING CIRCUIT

FIG. 14

START

200 LEFT-IN-THE-AIR MONITOR MODE INTERRUPTION  
201 CHANGE TO INSPECTION MODE (M) SETTING  
202 ACQUIRE FRAME IMAGE (F1)  
203 READ FRAME IMAGE (F0)  
199 ACQUIRE, IN ADVANCE, FRAME IMAGE (F0) IN INSPECTION MODE  
(M) WHEN PROBE IS LEFT IN THE AIR  
204 JUDGE SAMENESS OF F1 AND F0

MATCH

DIFFERENT

205 DISPLAY WARNING ON MONITOR (E.G., DISPLAY CHARACTER  
STRING SUCH AS "FRAME RATE WILL BE LOWERED IN X SECONDS" ON  
MONITOR)

INITIALIZE TIMER

104 INPUT COMMAND FROM OPERATION CONSOLE

INPUT FROM SPECIFIC KEY

YES

NO

105 COUNT OF TIMER = SET VALUE

MATCH

DIFFERENT

106-c LOWER FRAME RATE

107 INPUT COMMAND FROM OPERATION CONSOLE

YES

NO

108 RETURN FRAME RATE TO ORIGINAL STATUS

END

FIG. 15

START

300 ACQUIRE TEMPORALLY CONTINUOUS PLURAL IMAGES

301 DETECT TEMPORAL CHANGE IN BRIGHTNESS OF IMAGE FRAMES

THERE IS A CHANGE

THERE IS NO CHANGE

205 DISPLAY WARNING ON MONITOR (E.G., DISPLAY CHARACTER  
STRING SUCH AS "FRAME RATE WILL BE LOWERED IN X SECONDS" ON  
MONITOR)

INITIALIZE TIMER

104 INPUT COMMAND FROM OPERATION CONSOLE

INPUT FROM SPECIFIC KEY

YES

NO

105 COUNT OF TIMER = SET VALUE

MATCH

DIFFERENT

106-c LOWER FRAME RATE

302 ACQUIRE TEMPORALLY CONTINUOUS PLURAL IMAGES

303 DETECT CHANGE IN IMAGE OR INPUT FROM OPERATION CONSOLE

YES

NO

108 RETURN FRAME RATE TO ORIGINAL STATUS

END

FIG. 16

12 TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING SECTION

26 CONTROL SECTION

62 COMPUTATION PROCESSING CIRCUIT

63 FRAME MEMORY